THE MINISTER OF STATES OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) This Ministry has formulated se-versal developmental plan schemes for providing assistance for setting up of fruit & vegetable processing units, development of backward linkages, infrastructure developments, marketing, cold chains, diversification of deep sea .Ishing operations, setting up of fish processing uni's etc. A scheme for rehabilitation of the sick deep-sea fishing companies was announced in April, 1991 which had been further liberalised in June, 1992. A new deep sea fishing policy of joint ventures, leasing and test fishing has been operationalised.

(d) and (e) During the year 1992-93, under plan scheme of generic adveitising on processed foods and for providing marketing assistance, a sum of approx. Rs. 42 lakhs was spent for popularising Food i-roduct Order Symbol (FPO symbol) as well as for creating consumer awareness/ confidence about advantages such as hy-gence, confidence, off-seasonal availability, etc. of processed fruit & vegetable products. Luring the year 1993-94, a pio-vision of Rs. 1.50 crores has been made under the above scheme for the generic publicity of processed food for domestic market and export as well as providing marketing assistance for marketing of products of small scale food processing units.

SHORTAGE OF ANTT-T.B. MEDICINES

282. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is it fact that the anti-tuberculosis medicines have teen virtually out of stock in the various Government hospitals in the country;

(b) if so. the details thereof and whether Government have received requisitions for supply of medicines from the State Health Departments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to *(c)* Some shor-fage was reported in the early part of last fnancial year, thereafter Central supply of Anti-T. B. Drugs has been increased from Rs. 8.22 crores in 1991-92 to Rs. 26.5 crores in 1992-93.

ENHANCEMENT IN THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE IN THE NORTHERN STATES

283. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL :

SHRI SATYA. PRAKASH MALVIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact thai the infant mortality rate is increasing day by day due Khasra, Kalaazar, Kali-Khansi and •*'her* infectious diseases in the Northern states, particularly in Bihar and U.P.

(b) if so, the number of such deaths till March, 1993, and details thereof Isease-wise; and

(c) what are the steps taken/likely to be taken by Govt, to prevent nfant mor tality, details thereof State-wise, stating any special drive to be launched by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN TF1E MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SING" GHA-TOWAR) : (a) As per data furnished by the Registrar General of India, there has been '. decline in the infant mortality rate in all he northern states except Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh since, 1988.

(b) Age specific disease-wise record of deaths in the states are not maintained.

(c) Measures taken to reduce infant mortality rate include, interalia, immuniza-ion, oral rehydration therapy, prophylaxis of anaemia and Vitamin A deficiency, newborn care, treatment of pneumonia and promotion of breastfeeding.